

D2

4. (Twice Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a serine/threonine kinase, wherein the isolated nucleic acid molecule consists of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a nucleotide sequence that encodes a serine/threonine kinase comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;
- (b) a nucleotide sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:1; and
- (c) a nucleotide sequence consisting of SEQ ID NO:3.

D3

24. (Amended) A process for producing a serine/threonine kinase, the process comprising culturing the host cell of claim 9 under conditions sufficient for the production of said serine/threonine kinase, and recovering said polypeptide from the host cell culture.

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28. (Amended) A vector according to claim 8, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is inserted into said vector in proper orientation and correct reading frame such that a serine/threonine kinase comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 may be expressed by a cell transformed with said vector.

Please add the following new claims 30-36:

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30. An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence that is completely complementary to a nucleotide sequence of claim 4.

31. A nucleic acid vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 30.

32. A host cell containing the vector of claim 31.

33. A process for producing a serine/threonine kinase, the process comprising culturing the host cell of claim 32 under conditions sufficient for the production of said

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serine/threonine kinase, and recovering said serine/threonine kinase from the host cell culture.

34. A vector according to claim 31 wherein said vector is selected from the group consisting of a plasmid, virus, and bacteriophage.

35. A vector according to claim 31, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is inserted into said vector in proper orientation and correct reading frame such that a serine/threonine kinase comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 may be expressed by a cell transformed with said vector.

36. A vector according to claim 35, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to a promoter sequence.--